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LB 48, 748

territories, with no areas of maps that say you are entitled to this area, and you are entitled to that area. It's simply open season on everybody from one side of the spectrum--the public sector providers. It is overreaching. It cuts back on policy this body passed 43 to 3, two years ago, and repeals it with no replacement for the ideas. My suggestion is that we adopt the Bourne amendments on their face, look at where the bill is and you will find the bill is wanting because it is inherently unreasonable and unfair. It is "arational" at best, and irrational from my perspective considerably. It doesn't promote orderly analysis, orderly...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...growth, orderly regulation of utilities. That's what this body needs, that's what this state needs, and we're awfully close to it and we'll get to it with the next bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. (Visitors introduced.) Back to discussion of AM1493, offered by Senator Bourne. Senator Baker, followed by Senator Erdman.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members. What more can I say, if you were listening to Senator Landis? This is a bad bill. We can seek the remedies of what we need to do here in LB 48, not LB 748. This is a bill that is advantage seeking by public utilities. They know what they can do now. LB 384, that there's a lot of new senators in here since we passed LB 384. That was my priority bill a few years ago. We worked, and worked, and worked on that, had a solution and now they're back, the utilities, saying...the public utilities, saying we can't live with it. Well, I'm sorry. That was a lot of work. We'd agreed to it at the time, passed it overwhelmingly, and here we are back trying to throw...just basically throw the entire bill out. So I do not support LB 748. It's a step backward. And it's clear what we're trying to do here. It's to expand service areas of public utilities into what's being privately served now. If you want to socialize state government, this is a big step in that direction. We're just going to turn these companies loose and